

PNC  
Cont  
D631

# DISCONTENT

"MOTHER OF PROGRESS"

Entered at the Postoffice at Home, Wash., as Second Class Matter.

WASHINGTON STATE  
COLLEGE LIBRARY  
WHOLE NO. 166.

VOL. IV. NO. 10.

HOME, WASH., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1901.

## BOUND LOVE.

Love came to earth a happy God,  
Intent upon the good of all;  
And as he had no mortal eyes,  
Men thought he had no eyes at all.

For men have said that Love is blind,  
And so to make his journey safe:  
They bound him round with many chains,  
And led him forth at mortal pace,

Forgetting that immortal Gods  
Rise on their pinions ere they fall;  
But bound and led as now he is,  
He cannot use his wings at all.

So many a sad mistake he makes,  
That many a mortal weeps to see.  
They cry: "Alas that Love had eyes!"  
And Love: "Alas, that I were free!"

LULA HONEYCOMBE RUPEL.

## WHAT IS THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION WORTH?

What a scathing commentary upon the existing state of affairs in this country is the language of Gen. Trumbull: "The constitution has hardly any existence in this country, except as rhetoric. . . . By virtue of its sublime promise to 'establish justice,' we have seen injustice done for nearly a hundred years. It answers very well for Fourth-of-Julying purposes; but as a charter of Liberty it has very little force." What a terrible arraignment of our institutions! What a humiliating confession of the failure of Americanism! And the worst of all is that it is true. Let us see. The constitution provides that a person accused of violating the law shall "be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation" against him. Not merely shall he be informed that there is an accusation against him; but he must be informed of the NATURE of it, and of the CAUSE of it. The purpose of this is to compel definiteness and precision in making accusations, so that no unfair advantage shall be taken of an accused. And yet, in spite of this provision, we see a public officer, sworn to support the constitution, and bound by the solemn obligations of his office to protect the rights of citizens under it, who so far forgets his oath and his duty, and moreover is so recreant to all sense of right, honesty and fairness, that he has drawn indictments against the editors of *Lucifer*, each containing ninety counts, with the manifest intention of so presenting his accusation against them that they should not be informed of its nature or cause, with the manifest intention to so befog and muddle the case that he may work upon the superstitious fears of an ignorant jury, and thus succeed in throttling free speech. He has already found a grand jury so ignorant or careless of their rights as to approve his intamous work in ninety counts. Will he find a petit jury so ignorant and a judge so corrupt, that his scheme shall succeed, and the editors of *Lucifer* be imprisoned on this mock indictment?

The theory of the law is that a pleading is (1) to give notice of the claims of the party making it, (2) to make an issue,

(3) to make a record. The indictments of *Lucifer's* editors are drawn with ingenious but dishonest skill in such a way that they do not answer the purposes of indictments at all. They give no notice of what act it is that the prosecution complains of. The defendants cannot in the nature of things intelligently join issue thereupon; and they are useless as records of any judicial proceeding that may be had upon them. They say practically to the defendants: "I charge you with doing an obscene act." "What have we done that is obscene?" The prosecution answers, "Oh, it is so obscene that we can't tell you for fear of shocking the modesty of the court!" The effect of this is to make the prosecutor the final judge of the question whether the matter is really so obscene that it would shock the court and pollute its records or not, and thus the accused comes into court bound hand and foot by the prejudice the prosecutor's decision has created.

It is lamentable that there are many judges of so little moral character that they stand ready to be shocked at a little public obscenity. These are just the judges upon whom no amount of private corruption can produce shock enough to prevent their participation in it. Their mock modesty reminds us of the case of the drowning swimmer, reported in the Massachusetts papers two or three years ago, who might have been rescued by a pleasure party near by in a row-boat, but the ladies of the party were so shocked at the idea of seeing a naked man that they insisted upon leaving the poor wretch to his fate. What a sacrifice these vile women made to their eagerness to appear virtuous. The courts in obscenity cases are making just that sacrifice to maintain a sham appearance of purity. What kind of a court is it that is so shocked that it can't hear the truth of an accusation or defense? The duty of courts is to administer justice, and for the purpose of doing so they ought not to consider their records as defiled by the introduction upon them of any matter which is necessary in order to enable the court to do justice. A defendant has a right to say that he shall have fair notice in order that he may not be prejudiced in defending himself. The idea that an accused is not to know what he is accused of because the records of the court should not be defiled by indecency is fanciful and imaginary. The records of a court of justice are not read with a view to entertainment or amusement, and if there is any reason for indefiniteness in cases of obscenity why does it not apply to other offenses? A libel upon a private person is worse in its consequences than an obscene libel, yet who ever heard it claimed that a libel upon a private person need not be set forth in *haec verba*. Are courts shocked by the revolting stories of murders, rapes, and such crimes, to which they must of necessity listen? Are the records consid-

ered polluted by the recital of the details of these offenses?

There is no single case within the whole range of the law in which a court may not know what it is doing except the case of alleged obscenity. Then a great bugbear is conjured up, and the court, jury, and all hands, under the pressure of an unaccountable superstition, gallop the prisoner off to jail without anyone having a very clear idea of what it is all about. It is much to the discredit of our American judiciary that this disregard of a constitutional right has been allowed to be woven into precedent to the extent that it has. The English courts take the more honest view. In the case of *Bradlaugh vs. Reg. Judge Brambell* says:

"I cannot follow the reasoning as to the advisability of the records of the court being kept pure. It seems to me that it is a reason which does not bear an examination, at all events it is not the law of England."

It is moreover shown in that case to be the law that "where the crime alleged in the indictment consists of words written or spoken the words are the facts which constitute the crime and for that reason must be set out."

In an indictment for murder it is not enough to say that the defendant committed murder, what he did must be so stated, so that if the acts charged are proved to have been done it would be shown that he committed murder. So in the case of burglary it is not enough to allege that the accused committed burglary. The circumstances must be set forth showing how the crime was committed, and those facts must be sustained which constitute the crime. Why then in an indictment for any other offence should such a mock delicacy prevail as to prevent telling what is the offence? The ruling of the court in *Bradlaugh's* case should control in this country, for common sense is the same on both sides of the Atlantic. If that rule is the law of England there are a hundred times more reasons why it should be the law of the United States, and the chief of these reasons, beyond which it is not necessary to go, is that our constitution so declares it.

No decent person will ever be shocked at a statement of any fact in nature. It is always your impure rascal who is obtrusive in his modesty. It is always the harlot who sees men drown be ause they are naked. It is always the corrupt judge who is so careful of the records of his court that he disregards constitutional rights. It is well that there are pure and noble men who, bearing all the opprobrium that blackguards could devise, have torn the mask from Comstockian hypocrisy. All honor to them, for their purity is so eminent that it need not be bolstered up by any hypocritical pretence. All honor to Charles Bradlaugh in England, and all honor to D. M. Bennett, Ezra H. Heywood, Dr. E. B. Foote and others who have valiantly battled and suffered martyrdom

in America in their effort to make our constitution something more than a rhetorical lie.

ED. W. CHAMBERLAIN.

## WHY WE PROTEST.

Mr. Chamberlain's article in this issue, reprinted from *Lucifer*, where it was originally published more than ten years ago, could hardly have been more apposite, if it had been written expressly to fit the circumstances of *DISCONTENT's* present fight for free speech. Our comrades here are being made the victims of the same disreputable sharp practice, so scathingly rebuked in the case of *Lucifer*, and so utterly repugnant to every alleged principle of Anglo-Saxon jurisprudence. The method by which the progress haters seek to rob three men of the light of liberty, and to incarcerate them because of their intellectual convictions, savors of nothing so much as of the Dark Ages. It is a dastardly stab in the dark, delivered at men whom their persecutors dare not face in open daylight. It is an attempt to crush free speech by lying hints, to destroy the liberty of the press through innuendo. It is a foul plot, which depends for its success on keeping the public ignorant or misinformed. Its perpetrators are perfectly aware of the hollowness of their pretext. They know, just as well as we, that the talk of obscenity is the veriest bosh, and laugh in their sleeves, as they indulge in their hypocritical cant about morality being so weak an infant, that it must needs depend on crass ignorance for its protection. They are not quite such fools as actually to believe (however hard they try to make others believe it) that the articles indicted are really obscene. This they practically admit, when brought to the test, by slinking sneakily into a corner, and confessing by their silence that they cannot find a single word or phrase which they dare openly brand as containing obscenity. The flimsy texture of the fabric out of which their accusation is woven is just as apparent to them as to everybody else who investigates the matter. They would never dream of making arrests on such nonsensical grounds, EIGHT MONTHS AFTER THE ALLEGED OFFENCE, except at a time when special popular excitement and prejudice temporarily obscured the popular vision, and afforded an opportunity, so dear to small and spiteful men, of wreaking personal injury on men who differed from them in opinion. At no other time could the silly charge possibly stick; and they know it. Hence the careful timing of the contemptible attack, in the hope of preventing a fair trial, by which their malignancy would certainly find itself balked.

Strange spectacle! The accused seek publicity; while the accusers hasten to hunt cover. Which, think you, judg-

Continued on page 4.

## DISCONTENT

"MOTHER OF PROGRESS".

PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT HOME, WASH., BY  
DISCONTENT PUBLISHING GROUP.

50 CENTS A YEAR

Address all communications and make  
all money orders payable to DISCON-  
TENT, Home, Pierce County, Wash.

## OFF AND ON.

After the assassination of McKinley, we were informed that the police were hot on the trail of a dark and deadly plot. Numerous arrests were made; but the utmost efforts of police and detectives have failed to unearth any evidence which could incriminate anybody. Nevertheless, it would be most unwise to conclude that no conspiracy exists. There is a conspiracy in this country; and a fouler one never was hatched, and can hardly be imagined. Testimonies of its existence are multiplying on every hand. Its promoters take no pains to conceal themselves, but stalk arrogantly before the public gaze, fiercely menacing any who venture to expose their machinations. If this monstrous plot has remained hitherto undiscovered, it is because the searchlight of investigation has not been turned in the right direction. The culprits, who are still at large, and likely to remain so, are not Anarchists, but "eminent statesmen," aided and abetted by leading newspapers and representative clergymen. The victim selected for assassination is not a single individual, nor any set of individuals, but the entire body of the liberties of the American people.

Thus far, the conspiracy has succeeded to a remarkable extent. Disguise it as you may, the American Republic is dead. The ratification of the abominable Treaty of Paris was the unspeakable crime which gave it the finishing stroke. There is today no more real democracy in the United States than there was in Rome under the Caesars. Then, as now, Republican forms were ostentatiously maintained. The spokesmen of the people vied with one another in uttering extravagant laudations of the liberty which they did not know they had irreparably lost. The emperor was to them merely the necessary first man of the people, the chief of their public servants. So they continued to dream, until the strong hand grasped their throats, and throttled what little breath of true freedom yet remained in them.

Poor sophistry to urge that the imperial office in America, nominally elective and technically still called the presidency, is not held for more than eight years, and that therefore no dynasty can possibly be created. In the first place, the opposition to a third presidential term is found to be weaker, every time the matter is brought up. It is well nigh a mathematical certainty that the next popular president will be reelected for a third term with but little opposition. From this to a practical life tenure will be but a short step. Imperialism demands it; and what imperialism wants it will have in the future, even as it has had in the past.

Of course, those who believe that there can be no danger to liberty, so long as they are permitted to drop a little piece of paper in a box, will be

prompt to scout such an idea. Can a president be reelected, except by the votes of the people?

O foolish and short-sighted generation! Learn this lesson; and mark it well. A YOKE IS NO LESS A YOKE, BECAUSE THE MAJORITY HAVE THEMSELVES IGNORANTLY VOTED TO PUT IT ON THEIR OWN NECKS, AS WELL AS ON THE NECKS OF THE PROTESTING MINORITY.

The protection of the ballot! Read your French history; and learn how Napoleon the Little was "elected" emperor of the French by this same "free ballot." Go to Mexico; and inquire how it is that Porfirio Diaz is enabled to perpetuate himself in power under forms nominally Republican. The politicians have a thousand tricks that the public wots not of. The camel in the old story could easily have been kept out of the shop, if he had been refused permission to put his nose in at the window. The imperialist camel has already thrust his head and forefeet into the people's shop; and the rest of the body is in a fair way to follow. It would have been far easier to resist the earlier encroachments, than it now is to prevent them from spreading further. A few years ago, the mere suggestion that the United States could possibly be guilty of such barbarous perfidy as to attach a string to Cuban independence which practically nullifies it, to betray trustful Porto Rico, and to turn the Philippine Islands into a slave colony at the mouth of the cannon, would have been, nay was, repudiated with the utmost indignation. Now it is universally accepted as an accomplished fact; and only a few voices crying in the wilderness are heard in protest. From the lamb-like submissiveness to imperialistic designs which has thus far prevailed, is sufficient indication that but little resistance will be made to future projects of even greater infamy, unless the Liberal element of the country bestirs itself as never before. Those who now sit idly by, while liberty of the press is slowly strangled, will later vainly mourn their neglected opportunities.

The trial of Morrison I. Swift was thrown out of court recently at the request of several prominent business men of Ventura. Those miserable "patriotic citizens," together with the mob-inciting newspapers of that city, must feel like thirty cents when they contemplate the fiasco that their attempt to throttle free speech has resulted in. —People's Press.

For all such favors, we are duly grateful. The prosecution of Swift, for writing a book against imperialism was a step too far, even for these times. The incident, however, is extremely significant, as showing exactly what may be expected, if "the creatures of power" continue to have their way. Bills under the operation of which Swift would have been found guilty, and subjected to a very severe penalty, have already been prepared for submission to congress. One of these was described in these columns last week. Senseless and monstrous as these propositions are, they are seriously meant by the imperialistic plotters, who hope to profit by the ignorance of the people. The scheme is too well laid to be thwarted, except by the exercise of great and unceasing vigilance.

The Philippine commission has adopt-

ed an act against treason and sedition. The penalty prescribed for treason is death, and the act is framed to include those persons giving aid and comfort to the insurgents. Persons who utter seditious words or speeches or who write libels against the United States government or the insular government are punishable by the imposition of a fine of \$2,000, or two years imprisonment. For breaking the oath of allegiance a fine of \$2,000 or imprisonment for ten years is fixed as the penalty.—Press Dispatch.

How do you like this taste of practical imperialism? How does it square with the vociferous protestations that the Filipinos were being subjected only for their own good, and in order that they might learn to appreciate the blessings of American liberty? This is not an isolated case of military tyranny, like the atrocity committed in suppressing La Lucha, a Cuban paper, published on territory not an inch of which was even claimed by the United States, for simply printing a thoroughly warranted cartoon against American aggression. It is the deliberate declaration of a settled policy. Its denial of human rights is not accidental, but fully intended. "Sedition" and "libels" are words capable of very wide application. That there will be no disposition to restrict their meaning, may be readily inferred from the despotism which has already prevailed in the Islands. The monstrous press censorship under Otis can hardly yet be forgotten, when newspaper correspondents were threatened with arrest, for ASKING PERMISSION TO TELL THE TRUTH as to conditions in Manila, and when the government was so effectually construed to mean the Republican Party, that dispatches concerning the use of silver in the Philippines were refused transmission to the United States, because the party in power wanted to insure the continuance of the gold standard by fair means or foul, and because of instructions from Washington NOT TO LET ANYTHING PASS WHICH MIGHT INJURE THE ADMINISTRATION.

The dooming of the Filipinos to a hopelessly abject condition is but the prelude to the fastening of tighter fetters on American citizens. Look out for new sedition laws in this country, which will make it treasonable to criticize the actions of the party in power. The Russianizing of the United States is proceeding apace.

In last week's DISCONTENT, it will be noted that the articles indicted are otherwise specified than in preceding accounts. Thereby hangs a tale. The warrant on which our comrades were arrested included the name of G. F. Morong, who has never been in this part of the country, and has never been connected with DISCONTENT, otherwise than as the contributor of an occasional article. From this, in the inability of the officer to furnish more exact information, it was naturally assumed, and provisionally stated, that Morong's article was one of those on which the indictment was based. Wishing to make more certain of the matter, Comrade Larkin wrote to Postoffice Inspector Wayland, the individual who made the complaint, for reasons best known to himself, and undoubtedly best kept to himself, and requested him to specify the articles or parts of articles complained of, and to point out the particular language which was deemed ob-

jectionable. The autocrat of the mails, however, had not even the common decency to reply, although Comrade Larkin had taken pains to enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope. The indictment itself has now been examined, and a copy procured. From this, it appears that Morong's article is not included in the indictment at all. The accusation solely embraces Nos. 127 and 128, including Adams' article in the latter issue. Further specifications are not made. By a shameful travesty on justice, which would not be tolerated in any other class of cases, and of which only men destitute of a fine sense of honor would avail themselves, our comrades are expected to go to trial, without knowing to what they will have to answer. The meanest sneak thief is accorded more fair play than is thus meted out to men who are simply accused, under an unconstitutional statute, of expressing ideas which other people did not like. The law, bad as it undoubtedly is, is not quite bad enough to sanction such a highhanded procedure. For this reason, if for no other, an impartial trial can only result in throwing the case out of court.

Comrade Schellhous says that the "two orders of feeling in man" are not antagonistic, but "both necessary and complementary." Still, he insists on the dual idea; and in so doing, in my judgment, he enunciates a false principle. Instead of "two orders of feeling," a myriad orders can be found in man. These I recognize as referable to a common source, and branching from a common centre. But to make them reducible to a duality, partakes of the nature of an outworn philosophy, by no means in harmony with modern science. I should not have dwelt on this point, but for the fact that on this supposed duality of human nature, the church has very logically built up its most objectionable dogmas, including that of original sin, and that on this same foundation the governmentalist erects a superstructure of argument, which satisfies all but the closest reasoners.

As incidentally mentioned in Comrade Verity's article last week, DISCONTENT has never begged a dollar from anybody for its own needs. In this respect, it stands practically alone among propaganda publications. In stating this fact, there is no desire to cast any reflection on any other paper. I simply wish to point out that we have found it, on the whole, more satisfactory, and conducive to a higher degree of independence, to depend entirely on the voluntary contributions of those to whom the cause is dear, and who approve of DISCONTENT and its mission. We do not want gifts that come from a sense of duty, but only those which spring from a sincere desire to see the work go on. With more money at our disposal, we could indeed equip ourselves so as to work to much greater advantage; but we are content to "make haste slowly." The appeal elsewhere in our columns is in no sense a departure from the policy thus outlined. Its object is not to help DISCONTENT, nor even solely to save our comrades from going to prison. It is to advance the common cause of a free press.

JAMES F. MORTON, JR.

## IDLE THOUGHTS.

I read with interest the "Open Letter to Jas. F. Morton," also his reply to the same.

It occurs to me, the really radical folks are too much concerned over the Herron affair. At the time, was Herron doing the thing that has made him the target for comment from a really radical standpoint; was he governed by reason; was it, as usually it is in such unconventional acts, mainly an act of the emotions? And is such governed by reason? That emotionalism and reason have really no working basis together I am being forced to concede.

As Ida Ballou says, "an unconventional act does not cover a multitude of wrongs;" and the mere ignoring of the conventional bond of marriage is not at all freeing the actors in the affair.

There is no glory especially in seeing the average woman patiently endure her slavery; she does not really believe it is slavery, but feels the will of God, at least in her case, has gone astray. Ignorance is never worthy of glory; one deprecates it and wishes for better light to guide the wayfarer; but never ought one to intentionally laud it.

The "self-reliant, aggressive radical woman who flings her burden aside regardless of where it falls, or whom it hurts," is not to be commended either, if she be such a disregarding person. But the really radical woman, who is "governed by reason," does not grow so careless; she does care, and she is careful; but she ceases to be a creature of humility when she acts, and assumes that her burden cannot fall on anyone, and that if the casting aside of her burden hurts anyone it is because they are still in the toils of a false conception, which is not her fault.

It is amusing to see two such worthy radicals as Ida Ballou and Morton quibble over terms, and each one imply the other is less worthy, because of a temporary difference in opinions.

There is really no praise due Herron—he is not a hero; there is no pity due Mrs. Herron—she does not want it by her own confession; there should be some regret for Mrs. Rand-Herron for the senseless notoriety that is being heaped on her and Herron, because they saw fit to be rational enough to recognize that all ends were better served by their union. Really, Ida Ballou and Morton are endeavouring each one to assure the other that they, individually, are the same, and that the bone of contention is not there at all.

Herron has no laurels to mar; he did nothing to place him in the ranks of the really radical folks—he left one woman, legally, and went to another in the same way and the incident closed. No laurels, no stigma, only a necessary result of an unavoidable cause.

THE IDLER.

## IN REMEMBRANCE.

Fourteen years ago occurred the tragical events, which, though shocking and crushing our hearts as they did, were fraught with great significance when considered in their sociologic and historical relations. They were supposed to accomplish a certain object, i. e., the utter extinguishment of Anarchy and the silencing of Anarchists forevermore. But the consequences flowing from that epoch have been entirely dif-

ferent, and far more important, than the principal actors ever dreamed. The ruling powers, having learned no lesson from the past, were certain that the thought they feared could be driven out of men's minds by taking men's lives and imprisoning men's bodies. Yet, that stupid method, old as human society itself, has never been known to accomplish its object.

The earliest teachers of the idea of universal human brotherhood were persecuted and cruelly killed by the classes which resented the idea of fellowship with all men. Yet the thought, darkened and forgotten many times, slowly grew and spread, until, today, when, though we have not yet learned to put it into general practice, all intelligent and enlightened people never deny that there is a bond of relationship between all the members of the human race. They admit that one individual cannot live entirely independent of the rest and that every human being deserves equal opportunities, in other words, justice. The Reformation was a vivid illustration of the powerlessness of cruelty in crushing out a thought. Millions of people were tortured, persecuted, murdered, and yet the formidable "Protest" lived and flourished. Men and women in all the prominent nations of earth have been racked, burned, imprisoned, put to death for advocating ideas of greater freedom than they had known, but ideas have never ceased to exist. "The thin, bright line" has never been entirely lost and is brighter today than ever before. From the year of the martyrdom in Chicago, the Anarchist idea—the libertarian thought has developed and become more and more a part of all the great intellectual advancement of the world. Still heedless of this endless chain of illustrations, the unthinking masses, a few days ago, again broke out in a howl for diabolical punishments and cruel repressions, expecting thus to crush out what is the great, the vital principle of the century. The absurdity and futility of such an undertaking is even more marked than before.

The monument at Waldheim still stands, beautiful and silent, a silence that is truly "more powerful than the voices you strangle today." Thousands will visit it on this memorable day, the 11th of November, and many thousands more will think of it, tenderly, regretfully but hopefully, in all quarters of the globe. In all great centres of the world the lovers of liberty will gather to commemorate the day when martyrdom in this country consecrated the cause of liberty for all mankind. A sad regret will mingle with our remembrances—perhaps discouragement and hopelessness will weigh us down and render us heavy hearted and apathetic. But we can modify our sadness with a gleam of triumph. Our idea is developing, taking shape, growing more and more to be a part of all that is truly progressive and great in human society. It permeates, almost without cognizance, the best thought of the day. Side by side with the strenuous exertion to breed patriotism, to bolster up the grandeur and importance of governments, is growing the idea that it is all a sham, a makeshift by which men desperately cling to vast accumulations of wealth and great power, an artifice, a tremendous cheat perpetrated on the credulities of man.

As we look back upon those stirring,

enthusiastic days of fifteen and twenty years ago, some of us despond, in view of the seeming indifference of today. So many of the old, earnest comrades have apparently "gone back to the world," and are interested only in the ordinary occupations of getting rich and becoming popular. So few new, young radicals come into the movement with the devotion and interest of the old time enthusiast, we begin to fear the cause is dying out. But not so. One cannot remain forever at the point of the loftiest flight, or always stand toppling on the edge of a gallows beam. Life has its everyday, commonplace duties; and we all have some part in them. We are not so often in the midst of heroics; we do not form processions with banners and mottoes, as often as we used; and we do not shout so much. But I believe we think every bit as much, and are not so content with a half knowledge as we once were. I believe the idea of liberty is dearer than ever; and with this deeper love has come a better comprehension, a keener sense of what it means to be free, and yet be just and great. Best of all, anarchistic thought is reaching into all intellectual work, into all movements of real progress. It is not always labelled; but it is everywhere. The masters in modern literature revel in lofty aspirations after liberty. The speaker, teacher or writer shows his true title to greatness by his conceptions of freedom, and of individual liberty and responsibility.

Those sad November times were not in vain. It is well to meet as the days come around, "Lest we forget," and that we may remember the work these noble men laid down, and never cease to carry it along. But with hopefulness, dear comrades, for if human society is to exist at all, it must be as a FREE SOCIETY!—Lizzie M. Holmes, in Free Society.

## A CORRECTION.

In a reply to my article published in No. 163 of DISCONTENT, Comrade Morton has misunderstood me in so important a matter, that I ask his attention to it. He says "He holds that there are two antipodal elements in man, contending with each other for the mastery of his being." I have nowhere expressed such an idea. What I said was:

"To the careful observer, it is readily seen that there are feelings which prompt man to seek the means for his subsistence and comfort, and other feelings which call into action efforts to satisfy his sensuous desires in the pursuit of pleasure. Now, it is evident that when these feelings are stronger than the sense of justice and concern for the wellbeing of his fellow men he will yield to the promptings of his stronger feelings."

There are two orders of feeling in man—the selfish and sensuous desires, and the moral sentiments and spiritual aspirations—both necessary and complementary in the activities of life. Human conduct is a question of a balance of forces; the desideratum being their equilibrium, the harmonious activity of the whole; the selfish and sensuous under the control and sanction of the moral and spiritual. The idea of two positive and antagonistic forces in man is absurd.

Comrade Morton's exposition of my statement in this respect does me injustice, not intentionally, but inadvertently; and I know he will be glad to have me understood. E. J. SCHELLHOUS.

## THE FORCE OF CHARACTER.

Hence, the less government we have the better—the fewer laws, and the less confided power. The antidote to this abuse of formal government is, the influence of private character, the growth of the individual; the appearance of the principal to supersede the proxy; the appearance of the wise man, of whom the existing government is, it must be owned, but a shabby imitation. That which all things tend to educe, which freedom, cultivation, intercourse, revolutions, go to form and deliver, is character; that is the end of nature, to reach unto this coronation of her king. To educate the wise man, the State exists; and with the appearance of the wise man, the State expires. The appearance of character makes the State unnecessary. The wise man is the State. He needs no army, fort or navy, —he loves men too well; no bribe, or feast, or palace, to draw friends to him; no vantage-ground, no favorable circumstance. He needs no library, for he has not done thinking; no church, for he is a prophet; no statute-book, for he has the lawgiver; no money, for he is value; no road, for he is at home where he is; no experience, for the life of the creator shoots through him, and looks from his eyes. He has no personal friends; for he who has the spell to draw the prayer and piety of all men unto him, needs not husband and educate a few, to share with him a select and poetic life. His relation to men is angelic; his memory is myrrh to them; his presence, frankincense and flowers.

We think our civilization near its meridian; but we are yet only at the cock-crowing and the morning star. In our barbarous society, the influence of character is in its infancy. As a political power, as the rightful lord who is to tumble all rulers from their chairs, its presence is hardly yet suspected. . . . Every thought which genius and piety throw into the world, alters the world. The gladiators in the lists of power feel, through all their frocks of force and simulation, the presence of worth. I think the very strife of trade and ambition is confession of this divinity; and successes in those fields are the poor amends, the fig-leaf with which the shamed soul attempts to hide its nakedness. I find the like unwilling homage in all quarters. It is because we know how much is due from us, that we are impatient to show some petty talent as a substitute for worth. We are haunted by a conscience of this right to grandeur of character, and are false to it. But each of us has some talent, can do somewhat useful, or graceful, or formidable, or amusing, or lucrative. That we do, as an apology to others and to ourselves, for not reaching the mark of a good and equal life. But it does not satisfy us, whilst we thrust it on the notice of our companions.—Emerson.

Utilitarian materialism, barren wellbeing, the idolatry of the flesh and of the "I," of the temporal and of mammon, are they to be the goal of our efforts, the final recompense promised to the labors of our race? I do not believe it. The ideal of humanity is something different and higher. But the animal in us must be satisfied first, and we must first banish from among us all suffering which is superfluous and has its origin in social arrangements, before we can return to spiritual goods.—Amiel.

## WHY WE PROTEST.

Continued from page 1.

ing from their respective acts have the most cause to be ashamed of their work? The prosecutors, who meet with persecution ideas which they cannot vanquish in open and honorable discussion, are cowards, and dishonest cowards at that. They are mortally afraid of the light, for the simple reason that they cannot fail to realize that a general knowledge of the whole truth would overwhelm them beneath an avalanche of public indignation and contempt. The defendants, on the other hand, have everything to gain from letting the facts be widely known, inasmuch as these constitute the clearest possible proof that the accused are totally innocent of crime, and are simply being persecuted for opinion's sake. Hence the continued exploitation of the matter in the columns of DISCONTENT, and our appeal to all Liberal papers to join us in making a resolute fight for the freedom of the press. This does not concern us alone, but involves a most vital principle, to which no thoughtful citizen can afford to remain indifferent.

Our need for funds is growing greater. What has already been received will not begin to meet the counsel fees and other heavy expenses necessarily incident to vigorous procedure in the case. We cannot afford to have our work brought to a standstill, at this most critical period. Hence we urge all who wish to help the cause along, to act at once. Send all contributions to the Treasurer of the defence committee. His address is Oliver A. Verity, Home, Wash. We are not begging money for ourselves, but are inviting cooperation toward a common end. We are trying to do our duty on behalf of free speech. Will you help us by doing yours?

JAMES F. MORTON, JR.

## NO OVER POPULATION.

A. C. Everett asks if I know Max Nordau's "Degeneration." Yes; but I have not read "Elements of Social Science;" nor do I know the Neo Malthusian's "Malthusian."

Malthusianism has a new vogue now, because it supplies the plan of the church as an opiate to sore consciences, by shifting the responsibility for bad social conditions on to "Nature," instead of on to "God."

There is no evidence whatever that human population ever has "pressed on the means of subsistence;" but even if there be, for us to fear it is absurd. The whole population of the earth, man, woman and child, could go into our one state of Texas, and leave the rest of the globe empty and desolate. Still, Texas would not be as thickly populated as the island of Jersey; and the island of Jersey exports over \$40 per head of population every year, besides supporting its inhabitants.

Over population! Faugh! when the well to do are lamenting their small families and sterile women. We are "over populated" with land owners—one of whom would be an over population of one.

My letter called out a response from E. C. Walker. I am glad, because he calls me his friend. Mr. Walker is a brave man, by whom anyone should be proud to be called a friend.

BOLTON HALL.

## THE FACTS STATED.

For the benefit of any who are not regular readers of DISCONTENT, it is well to explain that three of the Home colonists, James E. Larkin, Charles L. Gowan and James W. Adams, are under bond to appear before the Federal Court in Tacoma, next February, on a charge of depositing obscene matter in the mails. As DISCONTENT has steadily avoided sensationalism, and has devoted its columns exclusively to the serious discussion of social problems, it is manifest that this accusation is a transparent subterfuge, designed to veil a formidable attack on the liberty of the press. As it is plainly unjust that men should be sent to prison to gratify the personal spite of a petty postal official, or the ignorant malice of those who would meet every new idea with persecution, a defence committee has been formed, with headquarters at Home, Wash., to take charge of the legal contest. Further particulars are contained in various issues of DISCONTENT, and in circulars, which will be sent to all who request them.

## HOME NEWS.

Another road has been opened, in this case between the Verity and Allen places.

A. Jorgensen, of Grayling, Mich., and P. Jorgensen, of Ingraham, Ill., made us a short visit this week.

Harry Dadisman moved into his just-built house this week. A dance was held in it, last Saturday night.

Lorenz Brothers have completed a new boat, which rejoices in the euphonious appellation of Tyconda. She is now running in place of the Typhoon, on the route between Tacoma and Home.

The land owned by the Mutual Home Association is located on Von Geldern Cove (known locally as Joes Bay), an arm of Carrs Inlet, and is 13 miles west from Tacoma on an air line, but the steamer route is about 20 miles.

The association is simply a land-holding institution, and can take no part in the starting of an industry. All industries are inaugurated by the members interested and those willing to help them. Streets are not opened yet and we have no sidewalks. Those thinking of coming here must expect to work, as it is not an easy task to clear this land and get it in condition for cultivation. There are 87 people here—24 men, 23 women and 40 children—girls over 15 years 4, boys 3. We are not living communistic, but there is not anything in our articles of incorporation and agreement to prohibit any number of persons from living in that manner if they desire to do so. Those writing for information will please inclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for reply.

## HOW TO GET TO HOME.

All those intending to make us a visit will come to Tacoma and take the steamer TYCONDA for HOME. The steamer leaves Commercial dock every Monday, Wednesday Friday and Sunday mornings at 8 o'clock.

## RECEIPTS.

Jorgensen \$2.50, Abbey \$1.00, Bancroft 50c, Boehm 50c, Breese 50c, Orcutt 50c, Rupel 10c.

## BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS

## FOR SALE BY DISCONTENT

Perfect Motherhood. Lois Waisbrooker.	1 00
Irene or the Road to Freedom. Sada Bailey Fowler.	1 00
Business Without Money. W. H. Van Ornum.	50
Helen Harlow's Vow. Lois Waisbrooker.	25
God and the State. By Michael Bakunin.	05
Moribund Society and Anarchy. By Jean Grave.	25
Anarchy. By Enrico Malatesta. Is It All a Dream? By Jas. F. Morton, Jr.	10
God and Government: The Siamese Twins of Superstition. W. E. Nevill.	05
The Chicago Martyrs; The Famous Speeches of the Eight Anarchists in Judge Gary's Court, and Altgeld's Reasons for Pardoning Fielden, Neebe and Schwab.	25
Five Propaganda Leaflets on the Sex Question.	10
Personal Rights and Sexual Wrongs What the Young Need to Know. E. C. Walker	30
The Revival of Puritanism. E. C. Walker	10
Appeal to the Young. Kropotkin. Mating or Marrying, Which? W. H. Van Ornum.	05
The Evolution of the Family. Jonathan Mayo Crane.	05
Love in Freedom. Moses Harman. The Evolution of Modesty. Jonathan Mayo Crane.	05
The Regeneration of Society. Lillian Harman.	05
Motherhood in Freedom. Moses Harman.	05
Institutional Marriage. M. Harman. A Tale of the Strassburg Geese.	05
The Coming Woman. Lillie D. White.	05
Plain Words on the Woman Question. Grant Allen. With remarks by E. C. Walker.	05
Variety vs. Monogamy. E. C. Walker	05
Marriage and Morality. Lillian Harman.	05

## OUR WORSHIP OF

## PRIMITIVE SOCIAL GUESSES

BY EDWIN C. WALKER

## CONTENTS:

Love and the Law; the Moloch of the Monogamic Ideal; the Continuity of Race Life and Tyranny; Food and Sex Fallacies, a criticism; When Men and Women Are and When They Are Not Varietists; the New Woman, What Is She? What Will She Be? the State Hiding Behind Its Mistakes; Bishop Potter's Opinion of Divorce; Love, Its Attractions and Expression; Is She an Honest Girl? Lloyd, Platt and the Pitiful Facts; Social Radicals and Parentage.

Appendix: Anthropology and Monogamy; Love and Trust versus Fear; Reflections upon reading William Platt's "Women, Love and Life."

Price, 15 cents. For sale by DISCONTENT.

## THE NEW HEDONISM.

BY GRANT ALLEN.

Grant Allen needs no introduction to reading, thinking men and women. Man of science, a writer of charming expository and imaginative prose, he was, perhaps, at his best when bravely leading on, as in this brilliant brochure, in the fight against degrading religious and moral superstitions and time-sacred wrongs. No brief description can tell you what this splendid little work embraces no short excerpts can satisfy you. Price 5 cents.

FOR SALE BY DISCONTENT.

## A PHYSICIAN IN THE HOUSE!

A NEW FAMILY MEDICAL WORK

BY DR. J. H. GREER.

This book is up-to-date in every particular. It will save you HUNDREDS OF DOLLARS in doctors' bills. It tells you how to CURE YOURSELF by simple and harmless home remedies. It recommends NO POISONOUS OR DANGEROUS DRUGS. It teaches simple COMMON SENSE METHODS in accordance with Nature's laws. It does not indorse dangerous experiments with the surgeon's KNIFE. It teaches how to save health and LIFE by safe methods. It is entirely free from TECHNICAL RUBBISH. It teaches PREVENTION—that it is better to know HOW TO LIVE and AVOID DISEASE than to take any medicine as a cure. It teaches how typhoid and other fevers can be both PREVENTED and CURED. It gives the best known treatment for LA GRIPE, DIPHTHERIA, CATARRH, CONSUMPTION, APPENDICITIS, and every other disease. It is the best medical book for the home yet produced. It is not an ADVERTISEMENT and has NO MEDICINE to sell. It tells you how to live that you may PROLONG LIFE. It opposes medical fads of all kinds and makes uncompromising WAR ON VACCINATION and the use of ANTI-TOXINE. It has hundreds of excellent receipts for the cure of various diseases. It has 16 COLORED PLATES, showing different parts of the human body. The chapter on PAINLESS MIDWIFERY is worth its weight in gold to women. It has a large number of valuable illustrations. The CARE OF CHILDREN is something every mother ought to read. It teaches the value of AIR, SUNSHINE and WATER as medicines. It contains valuable INFORMATION for the MARRIED. It advises people with regard to marriage—tells who should and who should not marry. Those CONTEMPLATING MARRIAGE should get this book at once. This book has 800 pages, is neatly bound in cloth and will be sent to any address for \$2.75.

ORDER OF DISCONTENT.

## Articles of Incorporation and Agreement of the Mutual Home Association.

Be it remembered, that on this 17th day of January, 1898, we, the undersigned, have associated ourselves together for the purpose of forming a corporation under the laws of the State of Washington.

That the name of the corporation shall be The Mutual Home Association.

The purpose of the association is to assist its members in obtaining and building homes for themselves and to aid in establishing better social and moral conditions.

The location of this corporation shall be at Home, located on Joes Bay, Pierce County, State of Washington; and this association may establish in other places in this state branches of the same where two or more persons may wish to locate.

Any person may become a member of this association by paying into the treasury a sum equal to the cost of the land he or she may select, and one dollar for a certificate, and subscribing to this agreement.

The affairs of this association shall be conducted by a board of trustees, elected as may be provided for by the by-laws.

A certificate of membership shall entitle the legal holder to the use and occupancy of not less than one acre of land nor more than two (less all public streets) upon payment annually into the treasury of the association a sum equal to the taxes assessed against the tract of land he or she may hold.

All money received from memberships shall be used only for the purpose of purchasing land. The real estate of this association shall never be sold, mortgaged or disposed of. A unanimous vote of all members of this association shall be required to change these articles of incorporation.

No officer, or other person, shall ever be empowered to contract any debt in the name of this association.

All certificates of membership shall be for life.

Upon the death of any member a certificate of membership shall be issued covering the land described in certificate of membership of deceased:

First: To person named in will or bequest.  
Second: Wife or husband.  
Third: Children of deceased; if there is more than one child they must decide for themselves.

All improvements upon land covered by certificate of membership shall be personal property, and the association as such has no claim thereto.

Any member has the right of choice of any land not already chosen or set aside for a special purpose.

## CERTIFICATE OF MEMBERSHIP.

This is to certify that has subscribed to the articles of incorporation and agreement and paid into the treasury of The Mutual Home Association the sum of . . . dollars, which entitles . . . to the use and occupancy for life of lot . . . block . . . as platted by the association, upon complying with the articles of agreement.

SEND 10 CENTS for specimens of 10 liberal papers and 10 tracts, circulars and sample of stocking yarn, or 3 cents for a copy of "Little Freebinker." Elmina Drake Slenker, Snowville, Va.